AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 5, 7, 10-12, 16-17, 19-33, 35-40, 42-43 and 45-46 as follows:

5. The method of claim ~~2~~ 4, wherein the difference in the expression pattern is an up-regulated of at least two fold over the level of expression of CXCL9 or FLJ20174 nucleic acid in the one or more non-cancerous tissue samples.

7. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~4~~ 6wherein the cells are obtained from breast or ovarian tissue.

10. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~7~~ 9, wherein the ~~transcribed polynucleotide~~ nucleic acid is an mRNA or hnRNA.

11. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~7~~ 9, wherein the ~~transcribed polynucleotide~~ nucleic acid is a cDNA.

12. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~7~~ 9, wherein the step of detecting further comprises amplifying the ~~transcribed polynucleotide~~ nucleic acid.

16. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~13~~ 15, wherein the presence of said protein, polypeptide or protein fragment is detected using a reagent which specifically binds with said protein, polypeptide or protein fragment.

17. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~14~~ 16, wherein the reagent is selected from the group consisting of an antibody, an antibody derivative, and an antibody fragment.

19. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~ 18 wherein the expression pattern is assessed by determining the level of expression.

20. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~ 18 wherein the expression pattern is assessed by comparing expression patterns of CXCL9 or FLJ20174 in different tissue samples from the same subject.

21. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~ 18 wherein the expression pattern is assessed by comparing the level of post-translational modification of CXCL9 or FLJ20174.

22. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~ 18, wherein the sample comprises cells obtained from the subject.

23. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~20~~ 22 wherein the cells are obtained from breast or ovarian tissue.

24. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~ 18, wherein the sample comprises serum, nipple aspirate or ductal fluid obtained from the subject.

25. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~ 18, wherein the level of expression of CXCL9 or FLJ20174 is determined by detecting the presence in the sample of a nucleic acid comprising 10 or more contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:4.

26. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~23~~ 25, wherein the level of expression of said marker genes in the sample is assessed by detecting the presence in the sample of a transcribed polynucleotide encoded by SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:4 or a portion of said transcribed polynucleotides.

27. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~23~~ 25, wherein the transcribed polynucleotide is an mRNA or hnRNA.

28. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~23~~ 25, wherein the transcribed polynucleotide is a cDNA.

29. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~23~~ 25, wherein the step of detecting further comprises amplifying the transcribed polynucleotide.

30. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~ 18, wherein the level of expression of CXCL9 or FLJ20174 in the sample is assessed by detecting the presence in the sample of a transcribed polynucleotide which specifically binds with SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:4 or specifically binds with a portion of said transcribed polynucleotides, under stringent hybridization conditions.

31. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~ 18, wherein the level of expression of CXCL9 or FLJ20174 is determined by detecting the presence in the sample of a protein, polypeptide or protein fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:5 or SEQ ID NO:6.

32. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~29~~ 31, wherein the presence of said protein, polypeptide or protein fragment is detected using a reagent which specifically binds with said protein, polypeptide or protein fragment.

33. (Presently amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the reagent is selected from the group consisting of an antibody, an antibody derivative, and an antibody fragment.

35. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~32~~ 34wherein the expression pattern is assessed by determining the level of expression.

36. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~32~~ 34 wherein the expression pattern is assessed by comparing expression patterns of CXCL9 or FLJ20174 in different tissue samples from the same subject.

37. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~32~~ 34 wherein the expression pattern is assessed by comparing the level of post-translational modification of CXCL9 or FLJ20174.

38. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~32~~ 34 wherein the cells are obtained from breast or ovarian tissue.

39. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~33~~ 35, wherein the sample comprises serum, nipple aspirate or ductal fluid obtained from the subject.

40. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~32~~ 34, wherein between the first point in time and the subsequent point in time, the subject has undergone surgery to remove breast or ovarian tissue.

42. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~39~~ 41wherein the first tissue sample exhibits an abnormal CXCL9 or FLJ20174 expression pattern and wherein the test compound is a therapeutic agent.

43. (Presently amended) The method of claim ~~39~~ 41 wherein the test compound is assessed to determine the breast or ovarian cell carcinogenic potential of the test compound.

45. (Presently amended) The kit of claim ~~42~~ 44 wherein the kit comprises a reagent which specifically binds with a transcribed polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:4.

46. (Presently amended) The kit of claim ~~42~~ 44 wherein the kit comprises a reagent which specifically binds to a protein, polypeptide or protein fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:5 or SEQ ID NO:6.